

SUBJECT: Office of Independent Oversight's Office of Environment, Safety and Health
Evaluations Activity Report for the Visit at the LANL CMRR Project Facility
Construction Site, November 1-5, 2010

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Independent Oversight, within the Office of Health, Safety and Security (HSS), conducted an orientation visit on November 1-5, 2010, at the Chemical and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) project site at the Department of Energy Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The purpose of the visit was to determine ways in which HSS would be able to carry out its independent oversight responsibilities with respect to this project in a method that encourages integration with DOE-LANL. The orientation visit was conducted by the HSS LANL Site Lead and an HSS contractor.

The overall mission of the CMRR is to provide laboratory and research capabilities for missions assigned to LANL for analytical chemistry and materials characterization, long-term storage of special nuclear material, and other mission support activities such as waste management, sample management, and sample preparation. The CMRR overall project consists of two facilities: the radiological lab/utility/office building (RLUOB) and the nuclear facility (NF). The RLUOB is under construction while the NF is in the design phase. The NF is divided into three areas: the long-term storage vault, the security category 1 facility, and the auxiliary building. The planned structure will be constructed using reinforced concrete and is approximately 300 feet wide by 350 feet long, supported on a 10 foot thick basemat. The CMRR is designed to Seismic DOE PC-3 criteria. Management of design and construction of the CMRR is under the direction of the CMRR Division of LANL. Design of the NF is being performed by Sargent and Lundy under contract to LANL's CMRR Division.

HSS reviewed the preliminary documented safety analysis, selected quality assurance program procedures, and reviewed recent assessments performed by the CMRR Project Division office. These assessments covered design engineering activities, quality assurance surveillances, and management assessments. HSS also reviewed the CMRR Project Division corrective action programs, interviewed CMRR Division managers, and attended several CMRR Division meetings. Recommendations for future HSS Independent Oversight and mission support activities were identified and discussed with the CMRR Federal Project Manager and the Los Alamos Site Office Assistant Manager for Quality Assurance.